

December 14, 1858.

Dr. Gray, F.R.S., V.P., in the Chair.

The following papers were read :—

I. NOTES ON A COLLECTION OF MAMMALIA MADE BY MR. FRASER
AT GUALAQUIZA. BY ROBERT F. TOMES.

1. VESPERTILIO CHILOENSIS, Waterh.

V. nigricans, Pr. Max.?

Of this species—the commonest true *Vespertilio* in South American Collections, and occurring also in Mexico—Mr. Fraser has sent home two specimens, one adult and the other young. I entertain but little doubt that this is the Bat called by Prince Maximilian *Vesp. nigricans*. There is no South American species which answers so well to his description as this one, and it is so common that it would hardly have escaped his notice. It occurs in New Granada, Bolivia, Brazil, Chiloe, and Guatemala, to which we must now add Mr. Fraser's locality. In Bolivia it must be exceedingly numerous, Mr. Bridges having sent great numbers thence.

2. V. VELATUS, Isid. Geoff. sp.

Plecotus velatus, Isid. Geoff.

Histiotus velatus, P. Gerv.

Although placed in the genus *Plecotus* by M. Isid. Geoffroy, it is simply a *Vespertilio* with large oval ears, entire at their outer margin, as in *V. bechsteinii*, and *V. pallidus*, Le Conte. It appears to me to have none of the peculiarities of *Plecotus*, excepting the size of the ears; and neither do I think it was necessary to establish a new genus for its reception, as we find done in the volume devoted to the description of the species of Mammalia collected during the travels of M. Castelnau.

It is probable that this is the species described by Poepig under the name of *Nycticejus macrotis**.

3. SCOTOPHILUS FURINALIS, P. Gerv. sp.

Vespertilio furinalis, P. Gerv. et D'Orb. Voy. Amer. Mérid.

A greater number of this than of any other species of Bat appears in the collection. Hitherto it must have been rare in Museums, as I have met with but one specimen, and that may have been one of those from which the original description was taken, as it was contained in the French National Collection.

4. MOLOSSUS OBSCURUS, Geoff. Ann. du Mus. vi.; Temm. Mon. i.

Molossus fuliginosus, Gray, Mag. Zool. Bot. ii.

* Reise in Chili, Peru, &c. 1835.

5. GLOSSOPHAGA ECAUDATA, Geoff. Mem. du Mus. iv. 418.

Anoura geoffroyii, Gray, Mag. Zool. Bot. ii. 490.

Of this species but one specimen has arrived.

6. PHYLLOSTOMA HASTATUM, Geoff.

In Mr. Fraser's letter, published in the 'Zoologist,' the following paragraph appears:—"I note the following, for fear it should be forgotten, and it is well Mr. Tomes should know it: amongst my Gualaquiza specimens will be found one Bat much larger than the rest; the Indian who brought it said it attacks the mules, and is called in their language 'Jichimchama.'"

This species is by far the largest Cheiroptere sent, and answers to the above note also in being a solitary specimen; but the form of the teeth, together with its whole structure, forbids the supposition that it is a blood-sucking creature. If by attacking the mules it were meant that it actually devoured any part of their substance, the statement would have quite as great an appearance of probability, for it is possessed of jaws and teeth of sufficient strength for a carnivorous regimen. Doubtless it is to the following species that the accusation more properly applies, while the larger is allowed the credit of it.

7. DESMODUS RUFUS, Pr. Max.

Desmodus D'Orbigny, Waterh.

One specimen of this species, with the same quantity of cinereous in the fur, which led to the name given above as a synonym, is contained in the collection. If any doubt were to arise as to its capabilities of blood-letting, a mere inspection of the front teeth would alone be quite sufficient to remove it. They are prominent and exceedingly sharp, admirably adapted to such a purpose. I greatly doubt there being more than one species of *Desmodus*: my own collection contains specimens which answer to the specific names, *rufus*, *fuscus*, and *murinus*. They are all similar, excepting in colour; in this they differ very considerably.

8. SACCOPTERYX LEPTURUS, Ill.

Vesp. lepturus, Schreb. Säugeth. i. p. 173. pl. 57.

Taphozous lepturus, Temm. Mon. ii. p. 291.

Of this species the collection contains three examples, of which two are adult, and the other scarcely half-grown. In the older ones the antibrachial membrane is furnished with a sac; but this is wanting in the young one.

9. SCIURUS ÆSTUANS, Linn.

The specimen sent, although no doubt referable to this species, are at the same time a little larger than is common, and have the ears a trifle longer. They are also more strongly tinged with rufous on the under parts. The differences do not appear to me to be sufficient to admit of specific separation.

10. *HESPEROMYS LONGICAUDATUS*, Bennett.

One specimen, differing in no way from the Chilian ones.

11. *H. CEPHALOTES*, Desm. sp.

The collection contains one specimen only, which, on the authority of M. Wagner, I here place in the genus *Hesperomys*. At present I have not sufficiently examined the species to speak with certainty as to its generic pretensions, but may observe that it is amongst those species which Mr. Waterhouse considered as requiring further examination.

12. *H. SQUAMIPES*, Licht. sp.; Wagn. Supp. Schrub. iii. 540.

Mus squamipes, Brants, Muiz. 138; Fisch. Synop. 323.

A male and female of this species, contained in the collection, appear to be similar in size and colour: and of the latter Mr. Fraser has the following note:—"Nose and feet flesh colour, ears darker; taken in a bag of grain in the house; Xivaro name, 'Catipi.'" The specimen differs only from others from Bolivia in having the tail a little shorter.

13. — ? — ?

A single specimen, in skin, from which the skull has been removed, and appears not to have arrived with it. It is most likely a species of *Hesperomys*, of rather large size, approaching that of *H. Cephalotes*, and having very long and soft fur of a deep rufous colour, and a tail considerably longer than the head and body.

14. — — ?

A very young animal, probably of the genus *Hesperomys*.

15. *ECHIMYS CAYENENSIS*, Geoff.

A thickly-spined, and rather large example, apparently somewhat more strongly tinged with rufous than the illustration given by Mr. Waterhouse, or than either of those given by M. Pictet.

16. *DIDELPHYS PUSILLA*, Desm. Mamm. 261.

Four specimens of this diminutive species are contained in the collection, of which one only is adult.

17. *DIDELPHYS* — ?

Only one specimen, which agrees with exactness to the description of a species, given by Mr. Waterhouse, as of doubtful identity with *D. cinerea**. It differs from the latter in having very much longer

* I am fully aware that I am placing a pouched species in that section of the genus which is characterized by a merely rudimentary pouch, or by its entire absence: but the example examined by Mr. Waterhouse was a male, and we know nothing about the pouch. The existence of this part in the present species, and its absence in the one which it otherwise most nearly resembles, is sufficient evidence of the distinctness of the two.



M & W Hanhart, Imp.

1. ELAINIA GRISEIGULARIS *Scoter.*
2, _____ STICTOPTERA *Scoter.*